

The Present Simple

1. Form:

Simple present	
	To Stem
I	Stem
You (including plural)	Stem
He	} Stem + S or ES
She	
It	
We (plural)	
They (plural)	Stem

Notes: Play__ He/ She plays >> Y is Preceded by a Vowel (a)

Study __He/ She studies >> Y is Preceded by a Consonant (d)

Look __ He/ She looks (~~lookes~~)

Come __ He/ She comes (~~comees~~)

2. Uses of simple present:

a. Repeated actions, habits, and routines

- We **leave** for work at 7.30 *every morning*.
- They *usually* **play** football on Sunday.

Note: the simple present is often used with adverbs of frequency (often, usually, rarely, never, frequently, every week, from time to time...)

b. Facts and generalizations:

The simple present can be used to indicate that the speakers believes that a fact was true before, is true now, and will be true in the future. It is also used to make generalizations about people or things.

-Cats **like** milk.

-He **talks** a lot.

-Berlin **is** the capital city of Germany.

**Importantly, the simple present is used to express general, universal, true and scientific statements.*

-The Earth **goes round** the Sun.

-Calcium **is** important to the formation of strong bones.

c. Stative/ Non-continuous verbs:

-She **needs** help.

-We **know** that man.

-I **like** swimming.

d. Permanent situation:

Use the simple present to talk about situations in life that last a relatively long time.

-He **lives** in Boston.

-He **works** as a fireman.

e. Scheduled events in the near future:

-The bus **leaves** tonight.

-Courses **start** next week.

Ref. (...)